

b1 1 ^{sub}_{c1} 28. (Amended) An absorbent article adapted to fit about a waist of
2 a wearer, including a rear waist of the wearer, the absorbent article having a
3 longitudinal direction and a lateral direction, the absorbent article further comprising:
4 front and rear waist sections with at least a first portion of the rear waist
5 section formed of a stretchable material,
6 an intermediate section which includes an absorbent portion and which
7 intermediate section interconnects the front and rear waist sections, and
8 a gasketing assembly including at least one gasket element having a face
9 portion deployable toward the rear waist of the wearer, the gasketing assembly further
10 including at least one compression resistant member thrust portion effective to deploy
11 the gasket element face portion toward the rear waist of the wearer, the gasketing
12 assembly operatively joined with the stretchable material of the first portion of the
13 rear waist section to mechanically deploy the at least one gasket element upon
14 tensioning of the stretchable material to fill a volume occurring between the rear waist
15 section of the absorbent article and the rear waist of the wearer, the at least one gasket
16 element configured upon deployment to inhibit a longitudinal flow of human
17 discharge along a body faceable surface of the absorbent article.

b2 1 ^{sub}_{c1} 32. (Amended) The absorbent article of claim 28 wherein the
2 compression resistant member is encased within a soft covering.

b3 sub c1 43. (Amended) The absorbent article of claim 28 wherein the at least one gasket element is formed at least in part by a bodyside liner and the gasketing assembly comprises a pair of leg member thrust portions, each leg member thrust portion having first and second terminal ends with the first terminal end of each leg member thrust portion connected to a face of the bodyside liner and the second terminal end of each leg member thrust portion connected to the first portion of the rear waist section formed of a stretchable material.

b4 sub c1 45. (Amended) In a disposable absorbent article which defines a longitudinal direction with a longitudinal centerline and a lateral direction and which absorbent article includes a waist section having a stretchable waist material adapted to fit about a waist of a wearer, the wearer having a rear waist and a lower back, the improvement comprising:

a gasketing assembly including at least one gasket element, the gasketing assembly operatively joined with the stretchable waist material about the longitudinal centerline of the absorbent article to deploy the at least one gasket element against the lower back of the wearer when the stretchable waist material is in a stretched condition to fill a volume occurring between the waist section of the absorbent article and the rear waist of the wearer and to form a containment volume,

12 ¹¹ ₁₀ ¹ ₁ the deployed at least one gasket element being effective to inhibit flow of matter
13 ₁ ₁ between the rear waist of the wearer and the waist material of the absorbent article.

1 ¹³ ₁ ^{Sub} ₁ 52. (Amended) The absorbent article of claim 45 wherein the at
2 least one gasket element is formed at least in part by a bodyside liner and the
3 gasketing assembly comprises a pair of leg members, each leg member having first
4 and second terminal ends with the first terminal end of each leg member connected
5 to a face of the bodyside liner and the second terminal end of each leg member
6 connected to the stretchable waist material.

1 ¹⁴ ₁ ^{Sub} ₁ 54. (Amended) In an absorbent article adapted to fit about a waist
2 of a wearer, including a rear waist of the wearer, the absorbent article having a
3 longitudinal direction and a lateral direction and which absorbent article includes a
4 front waist section, a stretchable rear waist section, and an intermediate section which
5 interconnects the front and rear waist sections and which intermediate section includes
6 an absorbent portion, a method comprising:
7 tensioning the stretchable rear waist section to deploy at least one gasket
8 element to fill a volume occurring between the rear waist section of the absorbent
9 article and the rear waist of the wearer and thereby inhibit a longitudinal flow of
10 human discharge along a body faceable surface of the absorbent article.